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chemical and morphological changes and to (2) the non-necessity for the user of intermediate components in the application as originally filed. The Examiner also stated that the proposed language, if entered, would raise new issues since the limitations (1) and (2) were not considered earlier. Finally, the Examiner stated that the proposed language, if entered, would not reduce or simplify the issues on appeal because limitations (1) and (2) would have to be addressed on appeal.

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The Applicant respectfully disagrees with the Examiner's statement that no support for the proposed language can be founding the application as originally filed. Specifically, the claimed limitation of "chemical and morphological changes" is disclosed in the original specification on page 3, lines 9 through 11. In this portion of the specification, the micro-sand blasting effect and/or the chemical changes in the micro area on the surface of the connecting area is specifically set forth.

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Likewise, the second objected-to feature of the "non-necessity for the user of intermediate components" is specifically disclosed on page 3, in lines 20 and 21, where it is described how the plasma treated portion can be directly connected to the carrier. The specification also discloses the possibility of connecting the plasma treated portion to the carrier with an intermediate layer. The Applicant also refers the Examiner to page 11, line 20 through page 12, line 3, and to page 13, lines 12 through 16, where, again, it is disclosed in detail how the plasma treated portion can be attached without the need for an intermediate component or layer. o/c

Thus, the Applicant respectfully submits that the proposed amendment does not add new matter, since the subject matter of the amendment is disclosed specifically in the original specification. Therefore, it is appropriate for the Applicant to file a CPA in this case, rather than a CIP, since no new matter has been added.

If any additional issues remain to be resolved prior to the substantive examination of the

CPA filed herewith, the undersigned would very much welcome a telephone call in order to discuss these matters.

Respectfully submitted,



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